



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED FOR ILLEGALLY RE-ENTERING THE U.S. AFTER BEING DEPORTED FIVE TIMES

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican national was sentenced in federal court today for illegally re-entering the United States.

Juan Jose Ceballos-Lopez, 34, who is a citizen of Mexico, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to four years and nine months in federal prison without parole.

On Dec. 15, 2003, **Ceballos-Lopez** pleaded guilty to illegally re-entering the United States after having been previously deported. **Ceballos-Lopez** was found in the United States on Oct. 24, 2003, in Greene County, Mo.

Ceballos-Lopez was originally charged in a criminal complaint filed on Oct. 28, 2003, in Springfield. The criminal complaint was later replaced by an indictment that was returned by a federal grand jury on Nov. 19, 2003, in Springfield.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, **Ceballos-Lopez** was previously deported from the United States in 1992, 1995, twice in 1997 and in 1998. He has previously been deported from California, Arizona and Texas.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow